

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) An image processing apparatus comprising:

a receiver which receives image data which is obtained by means of reading an original document by an image sensor;

an extracting portion which extracts an edge portion using the received image data;

an obtaining portion which obtains brightness information, saturation information and hue information with respect to the edge portion;

a first determining portion which determines whether or not the edge portion is black edge based on the brightness information and saturation information;

a second determining portion which determines whether or not the edge portion is a pseudo-black edge based on the hue information; and

a third determining portion which determines that the edge portion is a black edge when the edge is determined as a black edge by the first determining portion and not as a pseudo-black edge by the second determining portion.

4. (Original) An image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said second determining portion compares a threshold value obtained

based on the brightness information with the hue information, and determines whether or not the edge portion is a pseudo-black edge based on a result of the comparison.

5. (Original) An image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:

an image processing portion which applies a predetermined process to the black edge determined by the third determining portion.

6. (Original) An image processing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein the image data has R, G, and B data.

7. (Original) An image forming apparatus comprising:

an image sensor which reads a original document;

an extracting unit which extracts an edge portion using the image data from the image sensor;

an obtaining unit which obtains brightness information, saturation information and hue information with respect to the edge portion;

a first determining unit which determines whether or not the edge portion is black edge based on the brightness information and saturation information;

a second determining unit which determines whether or not the edge portion is a pseudo-black edge based on the hue information; and

a third determining unit which determines that the edge portion is a black edge when the edge is determined as a black edge by the first determining unit and not as a pseudo-black edge by the second determining unit.

8. (Original) An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the image data has R, G, and B data.